to protect the interests of the workers. However, review and updation of these laws is a continuous process. Amendments in the Trade Unions Act, 1926 and the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 have been carried out recently.

Besides this, a scheme for counselling, re-training and re-deployment of rationalized workers of Central Public Sector Undertakings has also been introduced from 2001 -2002 with a thrust on self-employment of the rationalized employees.

**ESI benefits to workers**

2427. SHRIMATI S.C. INDIRA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court has held that a worker shall be entitled to ESI benefits from the date of employment and not from the date of contribution/registration for such facility;

(b) if so, whether rules are being amended to provide for such a facility;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The provisions of ESI Act and the Rules & Regulations made thereunder already provide that employees in respect of whom contributions are or were payable under the Act are entitled to benefits subject to fulfilling the qualifying conditions.

**Employment growth in organised industry**

2428. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that growth of employment in organised industry and services both in the public and the private sector has lagged far behind the overall growth of the economy;